

Fort Lauderdale

**WaterWorks
2011
Breaks
Ground
In Three
Areas**



December 2002/
January 2003

A
community
newsletter
published
by the
City
of
Fort
Lauderdale



**Fort Lauderdale
To Take On Lofty Look
In CRA District**

**Register Now To Be A Part
Of The Dragon Boat Festival**



Also In This Issue...

**Special Holiday Events Unveiled; City Developments Updated;
Winter Camps For Kids Available And More**





Mayor's Message

Jim Naugle

City Commission

Vice Mayor
Cindi Hutchinson, District IV

Commissioner
Gloria F. Katz, District I

Commissioner
Tim Smith, District II

Commissioner
Carlton B. Moore, District III

A Message In Support Of Our Schools

There is no question that the quality of education in our schools is of great concern to our community. It was a topic of great debate during the last election. However, the confidence we have in this community and its unwavering support of its schools continues to soar.

As Mayor, I visit many of Fort Lauderdale's schools and want to inform you that there are many outstanding schools, educational leaders and students that we can all be proud of and who are located within our own City limits.

We have many dedicated teachers and administrators in our schools who have devoted their lives to seeing our children receive the best chance to succeed in life. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Sunrise Middle School's Connie

Hines, a Social Studies teacher, who has been named Broward County Teacher of the Year 2003.

How we educate our students determines our viability and strength as a City and nation in the future. It is the unwavering commitment by these educators and our continued support to student achievement that will ensure our school system's success. Our students test scores are improving and school rankings have improved dramatically. One particular Fort Lauderdale school has the county's largest number of National Merit Scholars.

Your City Commission is working with the Fort Lauderdale Education Advisory Board to make sure that we continue to achieve outstanding results. In cooperation with the National League of Cities, our City

has undertaken a Municipal Leadership in Education initiative (MLE). As only one of six designated projects in the country, our City is currently working with volunteers to help conduct a visioning process that will enhance continued community support in our schools. This is an excellent opportunity for everyone to lend a hand at this time. Please call (954) 828-8962. We all know that parental involvement is important. Many businesses are involved to ensure a well educated future workforce. I am proud of the hard work of our teachers, students, and parents in making sure our public and private schools are among the best.

In closing, the City Commission and our families extend best wishes to you and your families for a safe and happy holiday season.

City Presents Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration 2003

A street parade, an essay and art contest and a ceremony at Parker Playhouse in Holiday Park recognizing community leaders are just some of the highlights planned for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration 2003 on Monday, January 20.

Presented by the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration 2003 Committee, the City of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County Library, all Broward County elementary, middle and high school students are eligible to enter the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art and Essay Contest. Write an essay or create a work of art with the theme Living the Dream As We Embrace

Diversity to win a \$300, \$200 or \$100 savings bond for first, second and third place winners. Winners will be announced in the March edition of Broward County Library's *Bookings* and will be displayed at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center.

Eligibility requirements include:

All essays, poetry or prose, must be typed with a maximum length of 500 words.

Artwork, which may consist of a collage, acrylic, sculpture, watercolor, chalk, ink or crayon work, should not exceed 22 by 28. All entries must be accompanied by a registration form that

can be downloaded (www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/MLK). All participants must register by calling (954) 828-4751. Submit all entries with entry form to the youth services librarian at your local library on or before December 16. You may also mail your work to:

Larry Holland,
Exhibits & Programs Department
African-American Research Library
and Cultural Center
2650 Sistrunk Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

All mailed entries must be postmarked by December 16 to qualify.

City Manager's Message



Floyd T. Johnson

Holiday Season Opens With A Strong Note

The holiday season is upon us. Typically, this time of year offers the chance to reflect on the past. This year, we are afforded the opportunity to look forward with a confident financial position and continued strength for our City.

Year 2002 has realized much progress, productivity and potential growth in all areas of service. As 2003 quickly approaches, we are fortunate and prepared to welcome the year with great confidence.

In an assessment of the financial stability of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Moody's Investors Services has assigned an Aa2 rating to the City's \$28.545 million General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2002. Moody's cited several strengths including stable city financial operations; an expanding local economic

base; a well positioned tourism industry and growing population; a strong debt service coverage with adequate General Fund reserves providing protection in the event of a financial contingency; and an operating budget which provides only necessary increases in spending.

According to Standard & Poor's, which provided an AA rating, their review reflects careful planning by the city to accommodate its strong rate of in-migration through major residential development; an adequate financial position with sustained general fund reserves; and a budget that recognizes revenue limitations. These ratings demonstrate the investment community's confidence in the financial status of our City's operations and services.

The ratings translate to a stable out-

look with a steady economic base and the maintenance of a sound financial position while addressing significant capital needs. It is a high grade and quality rating that minimizes interest costs. The bond sale on November 12 has yielded substantially lower interest costs partially attributable to these excellent ratings.

The City of Fort Lauderdale is committed to serving the community with quality customer services, stable operations and financially responsible strategies.

In closing, I d like to take this opportunity on behalf the entire City staff to extend the warmest of wishes for a safe, prosperous and harmonious holiday season and new year to all citizens, your families and loved ones.

Awards Program To Select Appealing Properties

Calling property owners, civic groups, homeowner associations, proper-contractors, builders and interested applicants who have beautified the City's physical appearance with a new construction or renovation project.

The 25th Annual Community Appearance Awards applications are now available. Presented each year by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission and the Community Appearance Board, the Community Appearance Awards encourage aesthetic awareness and recognize individuals and projects that enhance our community's visual image and economic

vitality. Applicants can submit new construction or renovation projects in a variety of categories that include institutional, parks and recreation, commercial, multi-family residential, single family residential, landscape/garden, special projects and retail. Some eligibility requirements include:

- * Property must be located within the corporate city limits of the City of Fort Lauderdale and it must be visible from the public thoroughfare.

- * Projects must have been completed within the past two years.

- * Owner of the property must author-

ize the submission of a project. Winners will be announced during an awards ceremony on May 8 at the Museum of Art in Fort Lauderdale. Bronze plaques will be awarded to each category winner.

For additional information, to receive an application, or to become a sponsor for the awards program, please call (954) 828-4741. All entries must be delivered by February 14 or mailed with February 14, 2003 postmark. Mail entries to the Community Appearance Board, c/o City of Fort Lauderdale Public Information Office, located at 101 N.E. 3rd Ave., Suite 300, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us



Pre-Sale Surveys Offer Buyers Best Defense Against Code Violations

The best defense against the costly consequences of code violations is a pre-sale survey. This City of Fort Lauderdale service provides potential buyers with an accurate picture of potentially costly and hazardous code violations prior to the closing of a sale.

"Code violations such as adjustments to floor plans, structures and electrical systems that are made without the required permits are addressed through an on-site inspection of the property and structure as well as research of the building departments records," said **Lori J. Milano**, Community Inspections Director.

An \$80 fee for the first hour includes time spent researching the property's history and performing an on-site inspection of the property. Customers receive a typed report within a three-week time frame from the date the pre-sale survey is conducted. The report outlines code violations and recommendations necessary for bringing the property up to code. For cases that require more research and survey time, a \$64 charge is assessed for each additional hour. In most cases, the survey can be completed within the first hour. Prospective property buyers are required to obtain a written consent for the inspection from the current property owner prior to the survey date. To request a pre-sale survey, call the Bureau at **(954) 828-5207**, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The following is a list of upcoming holidays effecting City of Fort Lauderdale facility hours, regularly scheduled meetings and services.

City Commission Meetings

Due to the activities and holidays throughout December and January, City Commission meetings have been rescheduled for the following dates.

Tuesday, December 10, 2002:

1:30 p.m. Conference Meeting
(held in the 8th floor Conference Room);

6 p.m. Regular Meeting
(held in the 1st floor Commission Chambers)

Tuesday, December 17, 2002:

1:30 p.m. Conference Meeting
(held in the 8th floor Conference Room)

6 p.m. Regular Meeting
(held in the 1st floor Commission Chambers)

December 2002						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

The Commission meetings for January will take place as follows:

Tuesday, January 7, 2002:

1:30 p.m. Conference Meeting
(held in the 8th floor Conference Room) ;

6 p.m. Regular Meeting (held in the 1st floor Commission Chambers)

Wednesday, January 22, 2002:

1:30 p.m. Conference Meeting (held in the 8th floor Conference Room)

6 p.m. Regular Meeting (held in the 1st floor Commission Chambers)

January 2003						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

All meetings may be viewed live online at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us

Holiday Sanitation Schedules

City sanitation service schedules have been adjusted in observance of the Christmas and New Year s holidays.

For Christmas Day: City sanitation services will be suspended in observance of the Christmas holiday. Garbage, recycling, yard waste and bulk trash service will not be collected on Wednesday, December 25th. If your monthly bulk trash pickup day is Wednesday, Dec. 25th, your bulk trash will be collected on Saturday, December 21st. All other services will resume on your next regularly scheduled pickup day. The City s Trash Transfer Station, at 2101 N.W. 6th Street, will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th.

For New Year 's Day: Regular residential garbage collection, recycling, yard waste and bulk trash will be picked up as usual on Wednesday, January 1, 2003. The City's Trash Transfer Station, at 2101 N.W. 6th Street, will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2003.

City Offices Closed

City Hall will be closed on the following dates in observance of these holidays:

- * Wednesday, December 25, in observance of Christmas Day;
- * Wednesday, January 1st, in observance of New Year s Day;
- * Monday, January 20, 2002, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

Four WaterWorks 2011 Projects Underway

WaterWorks 2011, the City's Water and Wastewater Capital Improvements Program, is well underway in four major areas.

In October, City officials, staff and community members gathered to celebrate the start of four major sanitary and sewer projects located in Lauderdale Manors, the NW Progresso area, Miami Road and the S.W. 4th Avenue corridor.

Under WaterWorks 2011, the City will implement almost \$490M worth of capital improvements by the City's 100-year anniversary in 2011. Programmed improvements include construction of sanitary sewers in the 40 percent of the City that is currently unsewered, state-of-the-art improvements at the City's two water treatment plants, and other general improvements to the City's water and wastewater infrastructure. The first phase of the Lauderdale Manors project will include constructing sanitary sewers, serving the southeastern section of the neighborhood. In addition, the project will replace old and/or undersized watermains, to improve water quality and pressure in the area. The work is scheduled to be completed by August 2003, with sewer connections occurring within 90 days of that completion. Two additional phases are planned in Lauderdale Manors, with all work scheduled to be completed by April, 2005.

We feel great that it is finally underway, said **Marsha Goldsby**, President of the Lauderdale Manors Homeowners Association. Continued dialogue and outreach between the City, neighborhood, and program manager will be key to this being a success. I consider this to be an upgrade taking place in a neighborhood that is over 50 years old.

Construction of sanitary sewers in the area surrounding Miami Road, south of SE 17th Street, and east of US-1 has also begun. The City will be replacing old and/or undersized watermains, which should result in improved water quality and pressure in this area as well. The work is scheduled to be complete by October 2003.

Construction of sanitary sewers and replacements of old and/or undersized watermains has also begun in the NW Progresso area.



City officials and members of Lauderdale Manors celebrate the initial start of their sanitary sewer project.

The boundaries of this project are S.W. 9th Avenue to the west, Sunrise Boulevard to the north, the FEC railroad to the east and Sistrunk Boulevard to the south. Plans call for completion by end of October 2003.

The S.W. 4th Avenue corridor project will include replacements of an old, undersized and out of service sanitary forcemain - adding needed capacity and improving the City's ability to provide reliable, economical and environmentally sound wastewater services.

To encourage continuous interaction among residents and property owners, field offices are being established in each of the project areas. Project managers are available to address questions and concerns at these locations: 500 SE 17th St, Suite 323 for the Miami Road project; 1036 NW 10th Ave. for the Lauderdale Manors projects. Other offices are in being developed. For updates on other locations, call (954) 522-2604.



City officials and Miami Road community members celebrate the initial start of their sanitary sewer project.

Efforts to Replenish City's Tree Canopy Underway

Efforts are underway to replenish the tree canopy that was greatly reduced by the citrus canker epidemic.

City of Fort Lauderdale property owners, whose fruit trees were infected with citrus canker and removed before November 30, 2000, will receive an invitation to one of three tree-giveaway events.

The effort known as Replant Broward Tree Giveaway is an initiative led by the Broward League of Cities and funded by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to help in reestablishing the tree canopy throughout the state. Broward County received \$2 million for the purchase of a variety of fruit and shade trees that will be distributed among municipalities.

The City of Fort Lauderdale events will be held Saturday, January 18, Saturday, February 15 and Saturday, April 19. At each event approximately 3,000 to 5,000 fruit and shade trees will be available for property owners to choose. Educational booths will provide literature on choosing and planting the right tree. Volunteers are needed for these days.

The January 18 event will take place at Holiday Park, located at Sunrise Boulevard and Federal Highway. Invitations and proof of residency within the corporate city limits of Fort Lauderdale must be presented in order to receive a free tree between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. All other citizens not possessing an invitation may attend between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., with proof of residency.

If you are physically unable to plant your tree, please call (954) 436-7579.

The City of Fort Lauderdale lost 10,280 citrus trees on 3,952 properties due to the epidemic. Citrus canker affects all types of citrus, including oranges, sour oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, lemons and limes. Canker causes the citrus tree to continually decline in health and fruit production. Ultimately, the tree will produce no fruit at all. For more information, contact Gene Dempsey, Urban Forester, at (954) 828-5785 or by email at GeneD@ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us. You can also visit the Broward League of Cities website (www.browardleague.org) to receive your free tree training online.

Avenue Lofts Groundbreaking Sets Pace For New Downtown Development



Unique loft living with an incredible view is now in the making in the heart of Downtown Fort Lauderdale.

With the first phase of three phases already sold out, Avenue Lofts, located at Andrews Avenue and N.W. 5th Street, is the latest downtown housing development to break ground in the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Area (CRA).

The \$20 million project calls for 100 units of upscale, state-of-the-art, live-

work space for urban professionals who want all of the amenities available in downtown Fort Lauderdale. Avenue Lofts will also bring 9,700 square feet of retail space to an area that is in dire need of economic revitalization, said **Kim Jackson**, CRA Director.

Of the \$20 million project costs, the CRA will contribute \$1.1 million and an additional \$500,000 for streetscape improvements. Developer Alan Hooper will also contribute \$430,000 for infra-

structure improvements. The City of Fort Lauderdale expects to earn an estimated \$4.5 million in tax revenue from the Avenue Lofts project over the next 15 years. Amenities for the loft apartments include high ceilings, large industrial style windows, polished concrete floors, a community pavilion with a swimming pool and hot tub and a secure two-level parking garage.

Opportunities will exist for retail businesses such as coffee shops, neighborhood markets, delicatessens, art galleries, florists, and antique stores to occupy the ground level of the Avenue Lofts project.

The City of Fort Lauderdale CRA was established in November 1995 to revitalize downtown Fort Lauderdale's blighted areas. The CRA district is generally bounded by Sunrise Boulevard on the north, Broward Boulevard on the south, Federal Highway on the east and corporate City limits on the west. In July 2002, the Fort Lauderdale City Commission approved a \$46 million CRA strategic finance plan to fund numerous redevelopment initiatives over the next five years.



Shown from left to right at the grounds of Andrews Avenue and N.W. 5th Street are City of Fort Lauderdale City Manager Floyd T. Johnson; Commissioner Tim Smith; Commissioner Gloria F. Katz; Tracy Dunham, Wachovia Bank; Florida State Representative Jack Seiler; CRA Director Kim Jackson; Mayor Jim Naugle; Alan Hooper, President of Avenue Lofts, Ltd.; Avenue Lofts Project Manager Chris Bellissimo, Broward County Economic Development Director Norm Taylor.

Business Matters

Need advice on how to increase sales, secure a loan or put together a business plan?

The City of Fort Lauderdale can help with a business counseling program offered in partnership with the Florida Atlantic University Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The program is designed to provide small busi-

nesses with the information, resources and services necessary to help them succeed in today's highly competitive business environment through free, one-on-one confidential business consulting.

Appointments are available Monday through Friday in the City's Community and Economic Development Department, located at 101 N.E. 3rd Avenue in

Suite 300. To make an appointment or for additional information on other programs, call **(954) 828-4505**.

Coming in January...

Don't miss free monthly seminars complete with tips and resources to help you establish and enhance your businesses. Call **(954) 828-4505** for additional information.

Downtown Master Plan Seeks Community Input

The City of Fort Lauderdale is looking forward to the continued growth of Downtown Fort Lauderdale with the development of a Master Plan.

Community members are encouraged to participate in workshops and focus groups that will ultimately develop a blueprint of guidelines for future development in the downtown area.

In July 2002, the City Commission approved a contract to hire a consulting team that is comprised of Keith and Schnars, P.A., Beyer Blinder Belle, Architects & Planners LLP and Greenberg Consultants to guide the master plan development process. Several community workshops will take place throughout the master plan process which is scheduled for completion by summer 2003.

The first community workshop, held on October 3 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, drew more than 130 participants who identified strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for the area. The participants also formulated goals with short and long-term action plans.

The consultant team is currently compiling the results of their research, including community input, and will issue a "Strengths, Weaknesses and Opportunities" analysis in November. The next step is to develop focus groups that will concentrate on developing recommendations for specific areas of concern.

"Community input is vital to the success of the Master Plan, said **Bruce Chatterton**, Planning and Zoning Services Manager for the City of Fort Lauderdale. We hope that the workshops and focus groups continue to capture the attention and participation from all segments of the community concerned with the future of our downtown."

For more information on the Downtown Master Plan or how to get involved, please contact Chatterton at (954) 828-5981.



The first community workshop in early October drew more than 130 community participants. Other workshops are planned for the Winter.

Key community recommendations and concepts included:

- Constructing a pedestrian bridge or connector that will link Riverwalk on the North and South sides of the New River;
- Creating safe designated pedestrian and bicycle pathways;
- Installing new parks/open spaces and linking them with landscaped greenways;
- Requiring parking garages and other "introverted projects" to screen the parking and inactive uses with active pedestrian uses at the ground level;
- Emphasizing mass transit and alternative methods of transportation;
- Encouraging high density, high-rise residential redevelopment in the Downtown's central core;
- Maintaining some downtown property for future school use;
- Requiring a mix of housing types including affordable and workforce housing;
- Preserving the existing urban fabric of the land framed by the existing street grids;
- Creating gateways that connect to and integrate the surrounding neighborhoods.

Property Appraiser's Office Presents New Mobile Office To Assist Fort Lauderdale Property Owners In Filing For Homestead

Broward County Property Appraiser William Markham will conduct special taxpayer sign-up sessions for the 2003 Homestead and Senior Exemptions at Fort Lauderdale homeowners associations and civic association meetings.

The Homestead Express mobile office will be available through the months of December, January and February. Deputy appraisers set up shop at association meeting locations to assist new area property owners with their property tax exemptions filings.

This is a great programming opportunity for your association and a good way to gain new members with your new neighborhood residents, said Markham.

Property owners who moved in 2002 must re-file in person the Homestead Exemption is not transferable.

Some qualified residents may be granted an additional Senior Homestead Exemption for further tax savings. State law entitles qualified persons with disabilities, veterans and widows/widowers to additional tax savings. For example,

the veteran exemption increased in 2003 from \$500 to \$5,000.

The Broward County Property Appraiser's Office will help associations with marketing, newsletter articles and web-postings to help make this a successful event.

For more information or to schedule a Homestead Express visit to your homeowner or civic association, please contact **Bob Wolfe**, Deputy Director of Community Services at (954) 445-5732 or at media@bcpa.net.

When School Is Out



Parks & Recreation Is In!

While school is out this holiday season, the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department is in! Your child will enjoy the fun and excitement of our sports, crafts and activity camps. So why let the kids camp at home, when there is plenty of sights to see and activities to take part in this holiday winter break. Below is a listing of just a few highlights. For others call (954) 828-PARK (7275).

Bass Park - 2750 N.W. 19th St.

Call (954) 828-8498 for information.

Winter Excursions Holiday Camp

Children in grades kindergarten through 5th will enjoy swimming in a heated pool, trips to exciting places and making plenty of holiday crafts. Children should bring bag lunches daily.

Dates: Dec. 23, 26, 27, 30, 31; Jan. 2, 3; Hours: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$40 per child

George English Tennis Center - 1101 Bayview Dr.

Call (954) 396-3620 for information.

Tennis Camp for ages 5 to 13

All levels of playing are offered.

Dates: Dec. 23, 26, 27, 30; Jan. 2 and 3; Hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Early drop-off at 7:30 a.m. and late pick-up at 5:30 p.m. are available.

Fees: \$30 per day, \$75 per week and \$150 for the two week session.

Joseph C. Carter Park Community Center - 1450 W. Sunrise Blvd.

Call (954) 828-5411 for information.

A Celebration of Holidays

Children ages 5 to 11 will enjoy tons of fun celebrating various Winter Holidays. Our supervised camp offers a variety of crafts, games, fieldtrips, parties and special activities. So why sit home when you can join the fun?

Dates: Dec. 23, 27, 30; Jan. 2, 3; Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Dates: Dec. 24 and 31; Hours: 8 a.m. - noon

Fee: \$5 Registration fee; 12\$ Trip Fee

Hands-on Driver's Education Training Available For Teens

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department and the New Driver Car Control Clinic is offering parents a way to help their teens become safe motorists with the Smooth Operator Program.

The Smooth Operator Program ' is a three-part driver education and training course for teens. The New Driver Car Control Clinic", the third installment of the Smooth Operator program, will take place on December 29 at Lockhart Stadium, located at 1401 N.W. 55th St. This four-hour, hands-on, in-car driving clinic, teaches key defensive driving maneuvers.

The first two program installments "Road Signs & Road Rules" and "Traffic Laws and Substance Abuse Education", are available via the internet or on CD-Rom. These self-administered tutorials cover the basic information required to pass the Department of Motor Vehicle test to receive a Learner's Permit. The Traffic Laws and Substance Abuse Education" covers the state-mandated study of traffic laws, with emphasis on alcohol and substance abuse and vehicle operation. Each student will receive the Certificate of Completion required to obtain a Learner's Permit. The cost of the Smooth Operator Program is \$125 for all courses, training materials and certificates. To register, please call toll free (888) 385-0606 or log on to www.SmoothOperator.net.



Don't miss these upcoming events and activities

Free Super Soccer Academy

Mills Pond Park and Lauderdale

Manors Park will serve as the host sites for the Super Soccer Academy Dec. 3 through Feb. 6. Children ranging from Kindergarten to eighth grade are welcome. Practice and meets are held every Tuesday and Thursday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mills Pond Park is located at 2201 N.W. 9th Ave. Lauderdale Manors Park is located at 1340 Chateau Park Dr. For more information, call (954) 828-8942.

Happy Holiday Ceramics & Crafts

Class At Bass Park

Come on out to the DeGraffenreidt Center at Bass Park and create holiday keepsakes that will last for years to come. This class will be for crafty beginners and veterans alike beginning Dec. 4 -18. Held on Wednesdays, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., the cost of the each class is \$10 per person for adults. For more information, call (954) 828-8498. Bass Park is located at 2750 N.W. 19th St.

Teen Holiday Party

At Mills Pond Park

Come join the teens as we celebrate the holidays with some good food, music and holiday cheer! Don't miss this Happy Days themed holiday party for teens on Friday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Mills Pond Park. Admission is \$2 per person. Mills Pond Park is located at 2201 N.W. 9th Ave. Light snacks and beverages will be served. For more information, call (954) 828-4565.



Dragon Boats Coming To Fort Lauderdale

Challenge your friends and co-workers to a great weekend of fun! Dragon Boat racing, an ancient 3,000 year old sport will debut in South Florida in February!

The Dragon Boats will be one of the many highlights of the inaugural **Dragon Boats & Buskers Festival**, taking place **February 7-9, 2003** in Downtown Fort Lauderdale. The Festival will encompass a variety of activities including a Friday night celebration of the Chinese New Year, a Saturday night Mardi Gras concert, a Children's Hands On-Area and Dragon Boat Racing. Buskers, who are street performers, will perform throughout the downtown area before, during and after the races each day.

Dragon Boat racing is a participatory event where corporations, community groups, schools, social clubs, families and civic organizations are invited to form teams and compete against the clock and each other. Each team will have 2-3 practices beginning January 20 in preparation for the races on February 8 and 9. The Dragon Boats will provide a brand new opportunity for people to enjoy Fort Lauderdale's waters and the camaraderie of others while engaging in an ancient sport for fun, fitness, and competition.

Dragon Boats are slim, teakwood 44' racers with a hand-painted dragon's head at the bow and a flashy tail at the stern. Each team consists of a crew of 20 paddlers, three alternates, a steerperson (provided by the festival), and drummer whose beat



sets the pace for the crew in a 500m racecourse. The races will occur on the New River starting at the Broward Center of the Performing Arts, and finishing at DDA Plaza, located just east of the Andrews Avenue Bridge. The City will provide all the equipment necessary for racing including: dragon boats, paddles, drums and safety equipment. Just bring your team spirit.

The time to register is Now! There are a limited number of team spots available for the first year. Team fees are as follows:

- * Corporate/Competitive Teams - \$1,300
(approximately \$55 per person)
- * Community/Government/Non-profit Teams - \$700
(approximately \$35 per person)

"This event lends itself to a great fundraising opportunity," said **Debbie Dunbar**, City Festivals and Events Coordinator. "Non-profit groups can help their organization raise money by competing in the race and seeking pledges from each group member."

For more information or to register, log on to the City's website at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/Festivals/index.htm. For more information, call the hotline at (954) 828-5363 or email DebbieD@ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us.



Mark Your Calendars! Spring Training Tickets Go On Sale January 11



The Baltimore Orioles and the City of Fort Lauderdale are teaming up for another spring training. The Orioles signed a new two-year agreement in July that will keep Spring Training at Fort Lauderdale Stadium for the 2003 and 2004 seasons. City officials and the Birds are exploring avenues that could lead to a long-term lease and a new Spring Training complex at Fort Lauderdale Stadium.

The Orioles have held Spring Training in Fort Lauderdale since 1996. This will be the Orioles eighth spring at the stadium located off I-95 and Commercial Boulevard. The Birds migrate south in mid- February with practice sessions open to the general public at no charge. Gameday tickets will go on sale at Fort Lauderdale Stadium on January 11. Home games begin February 28. Box seats to home games are \$14. Reserved grandstand seats are \$10. General admission tickets sell for \$7 (adults) and \$3 (kids 14 and under). Seniors, age 60 and over, may purchase a reserved grandstand seat for \$5 for all weekday afternoon games courtesy of Starlite Diner. Tickets must be purchased in advance. New events include Seniors Run the Bases Day sponsored by the Zachariah Wellness Center at Holy Cross Hospital on Tuesday, March 25. Returning fan favorites include Sports Authority Little League Day on Sunday, March 9; College

Night on Saturday, March 15; and Kids Run the Bases Day on Wednesday, March 26. For advance mailing, information on season ticket packages, group sales and the Orioles skybox, call the Orioles Spring Training line at (954) 776-1921.

Charity Breakfast

Your \$15 ticket to the annual charity breakfast, co-hosted by the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Baltimore Orioles, includes a hot buffet breakfast, photo opportunities with the Orioles mascot and an on-field autograph session with

Orioles players. The event will take place Sunday, February 23, 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., at Fort Lauderdale Stadium. To order tickets, call (954) 776-1921 to receive a breakfast flyer.

2003 Spring Training Home Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 28	Florida	1:05 p.m.
March 1	NY Mets	1:05 p.m.
March 4	Minnesota	1:05 p.m.
March 5	Boston	1:05 p.m.
March 7	Los Angeles	1:05 p.m.
March 9	Florida	1:05 p.m.
March 11	St. Louis	1:05 p.m.
March 13	Cincinnati	1:05 p.m.
March 15	Florida	7:05 p.m.
March 17	NY Mets	1:05 p.m.
March 21	Tampa Bay	1:05 p.m.
March 23	Montreal	1:05 p.m.
March 25	St. Louis	1:05 p.m.
March 26	Florida	1:05 p.m.



A look into the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department Communication Center.

The Importance of Reporting Crimes

Whether you are a victim of a crime or a witness, you have the responsibility to report a crime.

The City of Fort Lauderdale maintains records on crimes to patrol areas, administer resources to specific neighborhoods, develop effective crime prevention techniques, and provide citizens with accurate information on how to prevent crimes in their neighborhoods.

When placing a call to 9-1-1 please try to remain calm and provide the following information to the dispatcher:

- 1** ***The location where help is needed (This is especially important if you are calling from a cellular phone. Cellular phones do not deliver your address to 9-1-1 like the wire line calls do.)***
- 2** ***What type of help is needed (police, fire or medical).***
- 3** ***What is the actual emergency - a house fire, an accident with injuries, burglary of a building, robbery of an individual, etc. (Please keep your information factual and precise. When asked a question by the 9-1-1 operator, if you do not know the answer or are not sure please tell them that. Do not make up an answer.)***
- 4** ***Are there any weapons involved?***
- 5** ***The number of people involved and a description of the individuals.***
- 6** ***Vehicle description.***

We encourage all citizens who have been victims of a crime to file a report for a variety of reasons. City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department **Major Mary M. Schertler**. The first is to activate an investigation to determine what follow-up should be taken. Another is to determine whether it is necessary to issue a timely warning bulletin throughout the community to warn them of a potential threat.

Crimes in progress and crimes that have just occurred should be reported by dialing 9-1-1. Whenever possible, the actual victim or witness of the crime should call directly. Firsthand information is always more accurate and complete. If someone merely gives you the information and leaves, please include this information.

Crime reports help to establish patterns which can aid officers in

finding the perpetrator. Insurance or medical claims that may be made as a result of the incident often require a crime report. Finally, to accurately protect the community from future crimes, it is important to be prepared and informed.

**Dial 9-1-1
For Emergencies Only,
Otherwise,
Dial (954) 828-5700**

While it is important to report crimes in a timely fashion, it is equally important to report crimes to the appropriate source that will ultimately maximize law enforcement resources.

In 2001 the City's Emergency Communication Center received 252,337 calls on the 9-1-1 lines. Of these calls only about 40 percent were true emergencies, reports **Nancy Dzoba**, Public Safety Communications Manager for the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

The misuse of 9-1-1 places a burden on the resources of the agency and potentially can redirect call-takers away from a true emergency. A non-emergency phone number **(954-828-5700)** is in place to meet citizens non-emergency needs for service of law enforcement, fire, or EMS personnel. The purpose of the non-emergency number is to address situations that are not a life or death situation such as a vandalism that has taken place, a barking dog, a loud party, an abandoned vehicle, a burglary or larceny where no culprit is on the scene.

Here are a few tips to help you determine when to use 9-1-1:

To determine if a situation is an emergency ask yourself if police, fire or medical assistance is needed immediately to protect a person's life or property from death or immediate danger. If the answer is yes, you should immediately dial 9-1-1. If the answer is not clear, err on the side of safety and call 9-1-1. An example of an emergency is if you observe someone trying to break into your neighbor's car or someone has fallen and is now bleeding.

Preventing Crimes of Opportunity

Whether you are running a quick errand or going shopping, or visiting a friend at their home, it can happen to you at any time.

You park your vehicle and open the trunk using the trunk release within your car. You step out of your car, place some valuables in the trunk and momentarily step away from the vehicle to run your errand. Moments later you return



Officer Keith Dougherty places a vehicular burglary prevention flyer on the windshield of an automobile.

only to find that your window has been broken, your trunk has been opened, and the contents of your car and trunk have been stolen. It is a crime of opportunity all too familiar to law enforcement officers - vehicle burglaries.

Vehicle burglaries are committed at all hours of the day and night, at various locations. Most are crimes of opportunity, in which the culprit observed items of value exposed in the car, or observed a driver or passenger place an item into the trunk or passenger compartment prior to walking away from the car. There are precautions that every vehicle owner can take to minimize the risk of vehicular burglary. Here are just a few to keep in mind.

1. Remember to lock your vehicle. Many of today's automobiles are equipped with remote entry and too often owners forget to lock their doors.

2. Do not leave any valuables in your car. There are plenty of burglary reports on record where the victims left purses, computers, wallets, cellular phones, or jewelry

fully exposed to the view of a passerby by simply leaving them in the console, or on a front or rear seat.

3. As you park your car in a public area, assume that someone is watching. Potential thieves in busy parking areas such as shopping and entertainment districts search for opportunities, and know whether a vehicle is worth the risk of burglarizing by the actions of the occupants. Do not allow yourself to be seen placing a wallet, purse, computer, or any item of value under a seat or into a trunk.

"It is important to be cautious and aware of your actions and surroundings," said Sgt. Ted Tyzo of the Police Department's Burglary Unit. "Put yourself in the mindset of a person looking for opportunities to deprive you of your hard earned possessions. Frequently evaluate whether you, by your actions, might be creating an opportunity for that thief."

Community Policing Academy Enrolling For Winter Class

Enrollment is currently underway for the 19th Community Policing Academy scheduled February 19 - May 21, 2003. This 14-week program is open to City residents, civic and government organizations members. The academy is designed to foster active partnership with the community by addressing a variety of operations in the department. In addition to the scheduled classes, an eight-hour ride along with patrol officers is available. For more information please call (954) 828-6428. Applications can be downloaded from the City of Fort Lauderdale website (<http://www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/police/cpa.html>).

Wrap Identifying Decal Into The Gift of A Bicycle

Getting or giving a bicycle this holiday season? Whether new or used, don't forget to register your bicycle.

For \$1 you can ensure that if your bicycle is stolen and found, the Police Department will be able to return it to you.

Bicycle registration can be obtained at the Community Support Division Center, located at 533 NE 13th St. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Or you can call (954) 828-4585 for an appointment to register at Snyder Park, 2800 S.W. 8th Ave., Wednesday and Sunday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For additional information, call (954) 828-6400.

Holiday Safety Tips

As the holiday season approaches we should all take a minute to think about safety during the holidays. Unfortunately, this time of year also has the highest crime rates nationally.

The City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department highlights these holiday safety tips to help you protect yourself and your loved ones.



Stop, Look, Listen!

Be aware of your surroundings.



Have Your Keys Ready:

When leaving a store always make certain you know where you parked your vehicle and have keys in your hand.



Don't Go Alone:

When you intend to shop at night, be sure you have a friend or relative accompany you. If you do find yourself alone when leaving a store, don't hesitate asking the security guard to walk you to your car.



Hold On To Your Money:

Ladies should always carry purses tucked tightly under an arm. And make certain that the purse has a zipper that you can close. Men should keep money and only necessary cards in the front trouser pocket.



New recruits conduct the medical portion of the City's seven-week training. Shown from left are Firefighter/EMT Horace Oliver; Firefighter/EMT James Mesidor; Firefighter/EMT Jeffrey Pezone; Firefighter/EMT Fabio Guzman, Firefighter/EMT Mathew Schaefer and Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Niblack.

The Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department is committed to finding a diverse group of men and women who are ready, willing and able to respond to the needs of the City and ensure the safety of citizens and visitors, said **Fire Chief Otis J. Latin, Sr.**

New Recruits In The Line Of Fire

Little did Chris Niblack know that wearing a firefighter's helmet and sitting in a fire truck during a community event at the age of seven would leave such a profound impression lasting almost 15 years.

The spark of enthusiasm that fired up Niblack to pursue a career in firefighting is common among the 24 other recruits who recently emerged from seven weeks of protocol, emergency management and fire-rescue training.

The new recruits were officially inducted to the City of Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department in mid November. Together, the 25 recruits join a staff of 353 sworn personnel in a department totalling 413 employees, all committed to serving in one of the largest and busiest Fire-Rescue departments in Broward County.

There is nothing like this profession in the world, said 27-year old **Niblack**, who served four years at the City of Hialeah Fire Department. The variety of work that you perform throughout your career, the physical nature of the job and the sense of pride that you enjoy as you serve the community is why I am attracted to this career.

This has been a life-long dream of mine, said newly recruited Firefighter/EMT **James Mesidor**, 31. I developed an admiration for this profession and the heroes who serve it as a young child. Mesidor, who grew up in Miami, is of Haitian and Jamaican descent. He served as a police officer for North Miami for more than eight years, and possesses a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in Sociology and a Master's degree in Criminology. The transition to firefighting was a goal for him following his educational pursuits.



Hospital Administrators Don Fire-Rescue Gear For Daylong Training Exercise



Fort Lauderdale firefighters teach NBHD district administrators how to extricate an accident victim from a vehicle.

North Broward Hospital District (NBHD) administrators recently changed gears for a day to step into the boots of City of Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue personnel in a training exercise.

In an effort to better understand the Department's fire-rescue response system operations, pre-hospital emergency care, hazardous materials incidents and weapons of mass destruction, the NBHD administrators teamed up with City of Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department for a special training.

"This educational initiative provided all of us with the opportunity to learn from each other, to strengthen our partnership and to provide even better emergency response services to the citizens in our community," said City of Fort Lauderdale **Fire Chief Otis J. Latin, Sr.**

Administrators were exposed to two heated training exercises that shed light on procedures for a car extrication using the Hurst Tool, (a.k.a. the Jaws of Life), and a hazardous materials incident simulating a patient exposed to a nuclear, biological or chemical agent. During the extrication drill, the administrators wore full bunker gear, helmets and had to handle several tools utilized during rescue efforts. Administrators were also assigned to Fire-Rescue vehicles at select stations where they rode along with the City's firefighter/paramedics and responded to emergency calls.

"This unique opportunity provided members of the District's administrative team with a chance to study disaster preparedness and fire rescue operations through the eyes of a first responder," said **Wil Trower**, President/CEO of North Broward Hospital District and Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee for Florida's Region VII Disaster Preparedness Task Force.

Schools Urged To Sign Up Now!

City Announces Magazine/Catalogue Recycling Contest

From January 13 through February 14, public and private elementary, middle and high schools located in the City of Fort Lauderdale are encouraged to participate in the Magazine/Catalogue Recycle Program.

All participating schools will be financially rewarded based on the tons of old magazines and catalogues collected. The top three schools with the greatest tonnage will also receive a bonus check from the city.



To sign up, call Casey Eckels, City Recycling Coordinator, at **(954) 828-5577**. Schools are asked to sign up immediately in preparation for the contest. Residents, multi-family dwellings, businesses and community groups are encouraged to donate their collections to their local schools. Registered schools will receive complimentary containers and weekly service.

This program is a fund-raiser for the school and a way to promote increased recycling awareness and waste reduction in the City, said Eckels.

Last summer, 11 schools jointly collected 138.5 tons of magazines and catalogues saving the City more than \$11,000 in disposal fees. In return, the City of Fort Lauderdale rewarded the schools with more than \$3,000 in incentive money for their schools.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The next City of Fort Lauderdale Recycle Corps meeting will be held on Monday, January 27 at 7 p.m. in the 1st floor City Commission Chambers in City Hall, 100 N. Andrews Ave. For more information, contact Casey Eckels, Recycling Coordinator at **(954) 828-5577**.



Protecting Waterways Through Stormwater Management

The value of our waterways are important to present and future generations of the Venice of America. The City of Fort Lauderdale possesses many streams and waterways that retain significant natural value and provide important environmental, commercial and recreational benefits.

It is important that the of these waterways is protected from the threat of stormwater pollution. The City of Fort Lauderdale plays a significant role in improving the environmental management of our waterways through a Stormwater Management Program that includes public education. In an effort to provide citizens with vital information to aid in protecting our waterways, here are few things to remember.

1) Street swales are important because they provide a natural drainage area for stormwater that falls on our roads and driveways.

2) Swales should be kept grassy or covered with loose gravel. Swales add to the beauty of our neighborhoods.



Start 2003 Right

Recycle Your Holiday Trees

Start the New Year off right by recycling your holiday trees.

The City of Fort Lauderdale Sanitation Division will conduct a Christmas tree recycling program at five drop off sites for city residents. Residents may bring their trees to one of the locations listed below beginning December 26 and extending through January 10.

Christmas Tree Drop Off Locations

- * Bayview Park: Northeast 44th Street and Bayview Drive
- * Croissant Park: Southwest 17th Street and Southwest Second Avenue (next to the railroad tracks and east of the ball field)
- * Holiday Park: East Sunrise Boulevard and U.S. 1 (south of War Memorial Auditorium near the tennis courts)
- * Melrose Community Park: 3400 Davie Boulevard (located just north of Davie Boulevard, off S.W. 34th Avenue)
- * Palm Aire: 5899 N.W. 31 Avenue
- * Trash Transfer Station, 2102 N.W. Sixth Street

Trees will be transported to the City of Fort Lauderdale Trash Transfer Station, located at 1901 N.W. Sixth St., and made into mulch which residents can then pick up at no charge for their landscaping purposes. Residents may pick up free mulch from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Station.

Last year, the City collected 54,592 pounds from these locations, said **Casey Eckels**, Recycling Coordinator. "This is a program that directs more than 50,000 pounds of green material out of the waste stream while providing a fragrant, popular product absolutely free of charge to residents. It's just another great example of the benefits of recycling to our community."

For more information, call Casey Eckels, Recycling Coordinator, at **(954) 828-5577**.

Around Town

SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch

The Downtown Riverwalk along the New River comes alive on the first Sunday of every month for the SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch offering plenty of jazz, food and activities for the entire family. The event is one of the most popular monthly events in the City featuring six stages along the New River highlighting some of South Florida's most popular jazz musicians from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Area businesses offer a variety of tasty treats for purchase. Picnic baskets, blankets, chairs and dogs are welcome. For more information call the SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch hotline at (954) 828-5985 or visit the City's web site (www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/festivals). Don't miss these upcoming acts:

December 4: O'Hara's All Stars; Fly by Night; Billy Marcus; Bob Folse; Lew Willie and the Snapdragons.

January 5: Performers To Be Announced after December 1st.

Food, Fun and Santa On Las Olas

Kick off your holidays with Christmas On Las Olas on December 3 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Bring the family to this free event featuring snow for kids to play in and carolers singing favorite tunes. Enjoy shopping and the sights and sounds of the holiday season. For more information, call 1-888-4-LAS-OLAS.

Festival Of Trees At The Museum of Art



Celebrate the holiday season at the Museum of Art. Tradition continues with the annual Festival of Trees December 4 - 8. Uniquely decorated trees and wreaths transform the first floor galleries into the glow of a winter-wonderland. Special events include Opening night tree and silent auction on December 4, Ho Ho Martini Time on December 6, Breakfast With Santa on December 7 and SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch on December 8. Contact the Museum of Art at (954) 525-5500 Ext. 253 for all activities scheduled.



Winterfest Boat Parade

A lighted Boat Parade and Shoreline Decorating along the Intracoastal Waterway, a Black Tie Ball and Grand Marshal Reception make up the 2002 Winterfest Celebration. The 31st annual Cingular Wireless Winterfest Boat Parade Presented by Nokia will be held on December 14 starting at 6:30 p.m. Parade route begins in Port Everglades and ends in Lake Santa Barbara in Pompano. Skippers planning on entering a vessel must attend a mandatory Skipper's meeting on December 9, starting at 6 p.m. at Shooters Waterfront Cafe, 3033 N.E. 32nd Ave., on the Intracoastal. Homeowners, condominiums, apartment buildings, restaurants, nightclubs and marine-related establishments along the Intracoastal are encouraged to decorate their properties and participate in making a beautiful backdrop for the boat parade on December 14. Show your holiday and community spirit and see those efforts come alive on the Winterfest television special aired on WSVN Channel 7. The initial judging will take place on December 11th from 6 to 10 p.m. For more information, call 954-463-9800.



Adopt A Pet At City Hall

On Tuesday, December 10, the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Broward County Animal Care and Regulation Division will have plenty of pets to adopt at City Hall, 100 N. Andrews Ave. A variety of mixed and pure breed puppies, dogs, kittens and cats will be available for adoption from noon to 5 p.m. Prospective adopters are asked to complete a short application once a pet has been selected. Upon approval, a pet adoption fee of \$60 will be assessed which covers a health exam, sterilization, license tag, tattoo, vaccinations and a 14-day return policy. Adopters can take their new pet home immediately or have the pet held until 5 p.m. on that day for individuals who work and can't take time off during the middle of the day to take their pet home. For additional information, call (954) 359-1313, Ext. 237.

Downtown Live!



is Fort Lauderdale's newest after-work hot spot that will keep you out of rush hour traffic on Wednesday nights. Enjoy chart-topping music performed by local and regional bands, local artists, works, movies, sports, dance lessons and a host of other activities from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. along S.W. 2nd Street between S.W. 2nd and 3rd Avenues. The Himmarshee restaurants and bars will feature weekly specials and offer their finest food and hospitality. For additional information about Downtown Live!, please call the Parks and Recreation City Festivals and Events Office at (954) 828-6620 or log on to www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/festivals. Ample parking is available at the Broward County Garage, at the corner of Brickell Avenue and SW 2nd Street, and Las Olas Park Place, at Las Olas Riverfront. Each garage offers a flat parking rate of \$5.



Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us

College Swim Forum Set For Dec. 18 - Jan. 12

The International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) Aquatic Complex will host the 67th Annual College Swim Coaches Association Forum. More than 1,500 student-athletes from 50 collegiate swimming and diving teams predominantly from the eastern and midwestern states will head to Fort Lauderdale's premier swimming facility. This prime event is open to the public for viewing. For information on competing teams, hours and admission prices, log on to www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/hofac/index.htm or call (954) 828-4580. The Aquatics Complex is located one block south of Las Olas Boulevard on Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard.

Light Up Old Fort Lauderdale

The Old Fort Lauderdale Village & Museum needs new mini-white, exterior lights to decorate the trees and historic properties this holiday season. Drop off donations to the Old Fort Lauderdale Village & Museum, at 219 S.W. Second Ave. For more information, call the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society at (954) 463-4431.

Take A Shopping Break

Come by DDA Plaza/Bubier Park for a movie under the stars on the fourth Saturday of each month from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. presented by the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival. Maroon Moonlight Musicals presents *Miracle On 34th Street* on December 21. For more information, call (954) 760-9898.

Teen Holiday Basketball

Holiday Park is the site of the 5 on 5 Teen Basketball Tournament on Sunday, January 4. This event is free for all teens of all levels of playing, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Holiday Park is located at 420 SW 7th Ave, on the southeast corner of Sunrise Boulevard and Federal Highway. For more information, please call Jon Quinton at (954) 467-0398.



Santa To Give Candy On The Beach

Don't miss Santa Claus traditional candy giveaway along Fort Lauderdale Beach on Monday, December 23 at 12:45 p.m. His route will begin from the Parks and Recreation Department at 1350 W. Broward Blvd and take him east on Broward Boulevard to Andrews Avenue, south on Andrews to Las Olas Boulevard, east on Las Olas to A1A and south on A1A to the International Swimming Hall of Fame Aquatic Complex (501 Seabreeze Boulevard). Santa and his elves will proceed south to South Beach Park, located on A1A at the Yankee Clipper Beach Resort (1140 Seabreeze Boulevard) and cross to Fort Lauderdale's sandy beach where he will then proceed north along the beach to Birch State Park (A1A and Sunrise Boulevard) distributing candy canes and holiday treats. For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at (954) 828-PARK (7275).

South Andrews Business Association & Antique Car Museum Host Street Festival On December 7

The 2nd Annual Holiday Classic Car Show & Street Fair, sponsored by the Fort Lauderdale Antique Car Museum and the South Andrews Business Association, will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on December 7. Don't miss this free community event on Pearl Harbor Day along five blocks of South Andrews Avenue between Davie Boulevard and S.W. 17th Street. Activities include dozens of displays with antique military vehicles, fire trucks, classic cars and street rods, an antique and collectibles fair, a flea market, arts and crafts, and much more for all ages. For more information call (954) 779-7300.

Kwanzaa Kuumba Celebration & Karamu Feast Set

Pay homage to the sixth principle of Kwanzaa at Bass Park on December 31. Kuumba, which means creativity, will be celebrated through tribal storytelling, ethnic dances, stage performances and art exhibits. This free event, taking place from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., will culminate with the exotic tastes of the Karamu Feast. Co-sponsored by the Broward Kwanzaa coordinating committee. Bass Park is located at 2750 N.W. 19th St. For more information, call (954) 828-3647.

Register Now! - 13th Annual Senior Games Announced

Registration is currently underway for the 13th Annual South Florida Senior Games scheduled to take place January 22 through February 6, 2003. Known as the "Olympiad for people 50 years of age and over," the Senior Games consist of athletic, non-athletic and social events ranging from tennis, golf, track & field, swimming and bowling, to bridge, a bake-off and fine arts. Events are held at venues throughout the City of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County areas. The South Florida Senior Games is sanctioned by the Florida Sports Foundation and is a qualifier for the Florida Senior Games State Championships. Sponsored by the *Sun-Sentinel*, Holman Lincoln Mercury, North Broward Hospital District Senior Services, *Jewish Journal* and the *Hi-Riser*, the Games are presented by the City of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County Parks and Recreation Division, along with the support and involvement of many other municipal and private entities. For information, or to be placed on the mailing list, call (954) 357-8170, (954) 537-2844 (TTY), or email dhorowitz@broward.org.

Happy Birthday Dr. King At Mills Pond Park

Come join the kids as we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday at Mills Pond Park. Take part in a trivia contest, perform a skit and enjoy light refreshments on January 15, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. There is no cost to attend. Children Kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to participate in all activities. Call (954) 828-8498 or (954) 828-5411 for more information.



Note: While we make every effort to include timely information, circumstances occasionally force changes to events listed. Please call the numbers listed prior to attending. Additionally, current events may cause delays in mail delivery of this publication. Should you receive this publication after an event has occurred please accept our apologies.

Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us

Know Your Flood Zone

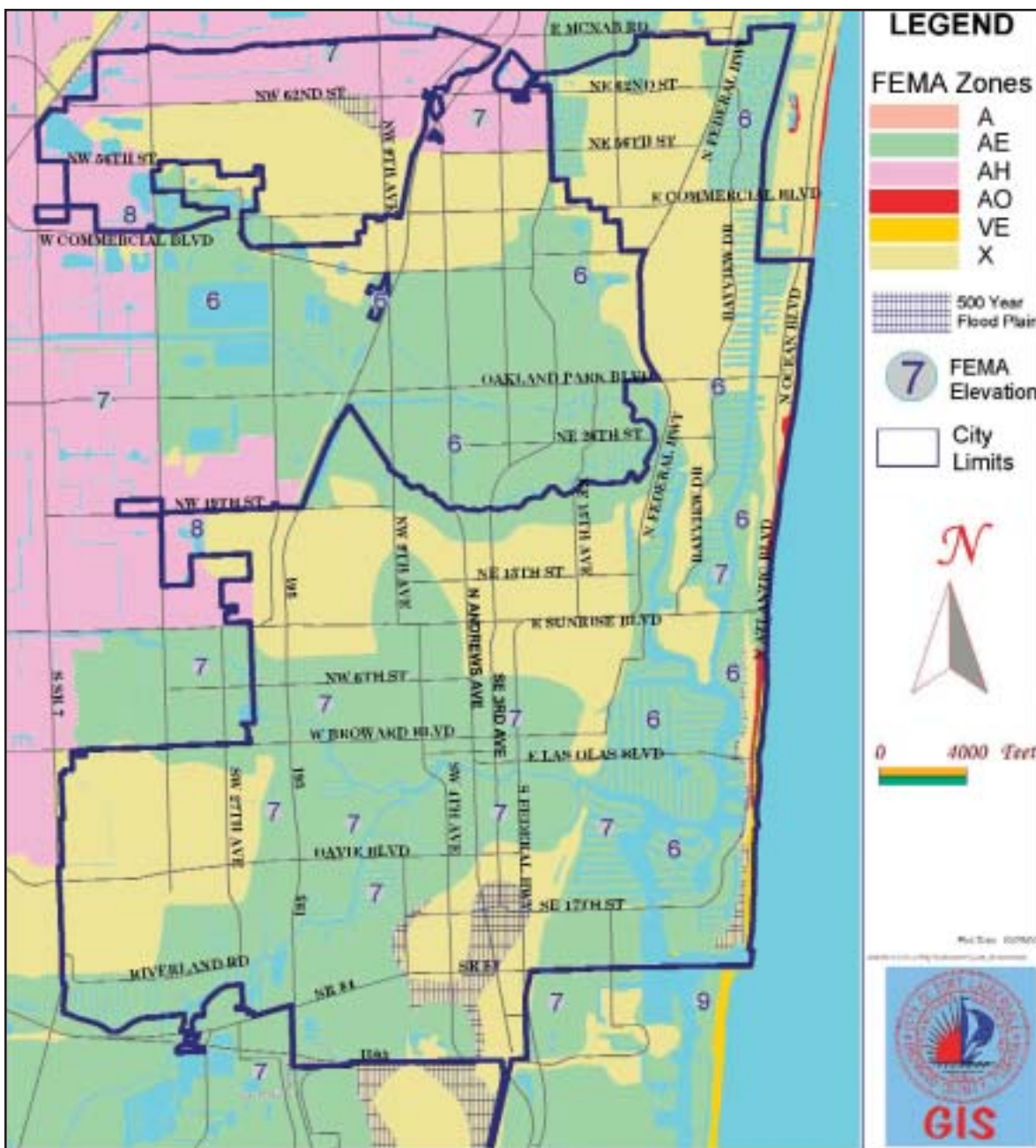
Is your property at risk of incurring flood damage? The City maintains a floodplain map that can help you identify where your property lies in relation to the City's flood zone boundaries and flood elevation levels.

The flood zone map, shown to the right, is accessible by visiting the Construction Services Bureau, located at 300 N.W. 1st Ave. The Bureau can also be reached by calling **(954) 828-5203** or **(954) 828-3266**. Property owners can also access this map from the City's website by logging on to **www.ci.fortlauderdale.fl.us/GIS/index.htm**, selecting the Create Maps and Queries menu item, selecting the Parcel Information Reporter hyperlink and entering the property address in the form provided.

What Designation Applies To Your Property

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) bases the flood hazard data on the one percent chance of Fort Lauderdale experiencing a 500-year flood. The City's flood zones include areas prone to the following:

- * **A** - Areas subject to inundation by a 100-year (1%-annual-chance) flood. Because detailed hydraulic analyses have not been performed, no base flood elevation or depths are shown.
- * **AE** - Areas subject to inundation by a 100-year flood as determined by detailed methods. Base flood elevations are shown within these zones.
- * **AH** - Areas subject to inundation by 100-year shallow flooding (usually areas with ponds) where average depths are between one and three feet.
- * **AO** - Areas subject to inundation by 100-year shallow flooding (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain) where average depths are between one and three feet. Average flood depths derived from detailed hydraulic analysis are shown within this zone.
- * **X** - Areas of moderate or minimal hazard from the principal source of flooding in the area as identified in the community Flood Insurance Study (FIS). Buildings in these zones, however, could be flooded by severe, concentrated rainfall. Local stormwater drainage systems are not normally considered in the community's FIS. The failure of a local drainage system cre-



ates areas of high flood risk within zone X. Flood insurance is available in participating communities but is not required by regulation.

- * **VE** - Coastal areas subject to inundation by a 100-year flood having additional hazards due to storm-induced velocity wave action. Base flood elevations derived from detailed hydraulic analysis are shown within these zones.

**City of Fort Lauderdale
Public Information Office
101 N.E. 3rd Ave., Suite 300
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301**

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